

1 Amendments to the Claims:

2 This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and  
3 listings, of claims in the application:

4 Listing of Claims:

5  
6 1. (Currently amended) In a modular prosthesis to be used in bone  
7 joint replacement having a weight bearing component with a proximal  
8 end, a distal end, and a through bore therebetween, an  
9 intramedullary rod having a distal end and a proximal end, said  
10 proximal end including a bore adapted to be connected to said  
11 weight bearing component, the improvement comprising a sub-assembly  
12 composed of an elongated link having a proximal end and a distal  
13 end, ~~said distal~~ proximal end of said link ~~connected with~~ including  
14 a tubular extension portion having a mouth, said distal end of said  
15 link being tapered toward said mouth, a tubular extension on said  
16 proximal end of said intramedullary rod, said tubular extension  
17 having an internal taper, said distal end of said link  
18 independently movably disposed within said bore in said proximal  
19 end of said intramedullary rod ~~said connection~~ permitting relative  
20 rotational and longitudinal movement between said tubular extension  
21 and said link, said tubular extension rigidly affixed to said  
22 proximal end of said intramedullary rod ~~whereby said proximal end~~  
23 ~~of said link is adapted for insertion in said through bore.~~

1 2. (Original) In a modular prosthesis of claim 1 said improvement  
2 comprising an enlargement near said distal end of said link, said  
3 tubular extension disposed between said enlargement and said  
4 proximal end of said link, said mouth being smaller than said  
5 enlargement.

6  
7 3. Canceled

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9 4. Canceled

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11 5. (Currently amended) A modular joint prosthesis comprising a  
12 neck, a trochanter, ~~a fastener~~ and a sub-assembly including an  
13 intramedullary rod, a fastener and a link, said link, said  
14 trochanter and said intramedullary rod each independently movable,  
15 said neck having a through bore, said trochanter having a through  
16 bore, said intramedullary rod having a bore, said fastener welded  
17 to said intramedullary rod about said bore, said link disposed in  
18 said bore of said intramedullary rod and extending through said  
19 fastener, ~~—and said intramedullary rod of said sub-assembly~~  
20 ~~relatively movable,~~ said link adapted to be telescoped with said  
21 through bore of said trochanter and said through bore of said neck  
22 whereby said trochanter is between said intramedullary rod and said  
23 neck and said fastener is adapted to lock said neck, said

1 trochanter and said sub-assembly together.

2  
3 6. (Currently amended) A modular joint of claim 5 wherein said  
4 ~~sub-assembly~~ fastener includes a tubular extension affixed to said  
5 intramedullary rod and encircles said link, said link and said  
6 tubular extension relatively movable.

7  
8 7. (Original) A modular joint of claim 5 wherein said through  
9 bore in said trochanter is tapered and said tubular extension  
10 includes a complementary taper whereby said complementary tapers  
11 combine to form a press fit.

12  
13 8. (Original) A modular joint of claim 5 wherein said link has  
14 planar surfaces and said through bore of said trochanter has  
15 complementary surfaces whereby said link and said trochanter are  
16 adapted be non-rotationally connected.

17  
18 9. (Currently amended) An artificial hip joint comprising a neck  
19 having a longitudinal axis with an arm for receiving a ball  
20 extending at an angle from said longitudinal axis, a through bore  
21 with ~~an annular skirt~~ a counter bore portion along said  
22 longitudinal axis, said through bore being countersunk, a  
23 trochanter with a through bore, a portion of said trochanter

1 through bore adapted to receive said ~~annular skirt~~ counter bore  
2 portion for rotational movement, an end portion of said trochanter  
3 through bore being tapered, and an integrally formed sub-assembly  
4 having a link and a intramedullary rod connected by a tubular  
5 extension, said tubular extension permanently attached to said  
6 intramedullary rod, ~~with the~~ said link and ~~the~~ said intramedullary  
7 rod being relatively independently movable, said link including a  
8 threaded bore, said link adapted for insertion in said countersunk  
9 through bore and said trochanter through bore, said tubular  
10 extension having a taper complementary with said ~~taper of said~~  
11 tapered end portion of said trochanter through bore, ~~whereby~~

12  
13 10. (New) In a modular prosthesis of claim 1 said improvement  
14 comprising said tubular extension welded to said intramedullary  
15 rod.

16  
17 11. (New) In a modular prosthesis of claim 10 said improvement  
18 comprising said tubular extension being deformable to engage said  
19 link.

20  
21 12. (New) In a modular prosthesis of claim 1 said improvement  
22 comprising said tubular extension being deformable to engage said  
23 link.